

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 073701 POSS DUPE
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 PM-04 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00
MC-02 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /056 R

DRAFTED BY OASD/ISA:CDR.BITOFF:MEM
APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:HAHOLMES
PM/ISP:DANDERSON
EUR/RPM:WTROBINSON
EUR/CE:GHUMPHREY
OSD/ISA:MGR. C.BOWMAN
DDRE:MR. THORKILDSEN
-----031550Z 044480 /41

R 022252Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
CDR DARCOM ALEXANDRIA VA
CDR PICANTINNY ARS DOVER NJ
USAMSAA APG MD
SRUSASGUK LONDON ENGLAND

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 073701

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY
WORKING GROUP 3 ON TANK GUN AMMUNITION (AC/297/WG/3)

REFS: A. STATE 057028, DTG 150042Z MAR 77; B. USNATO 1485,
DTG 161246Z MAR 77; C. USNATO 1239, DTG 071826Z MAR 77

1. WE UNDERSTAND RATIONALE IN PARA 1 OF REF B FOR NOT
RAISING MAINTANK GUN ISSUE AT THE MEETING OF THE AD HOC
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 073701 POSS DUPE

COMMITTEE ON EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY. HOWEVER, THE
INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REVISED PARA 20 OF AC/297-D/26
(REF C) IS MISLEADING. THAT PORTION OF PARA 20 BEGINNING
WITH QTE THE CHOICE BY THE US WILL LIE BETWEEN . . . UNQTE
AND ENDING WITH QTE . . . WILL EXIST WITHIN NATO FOR A
CONSIDERABLE TIME TO COME. UNQTE WARRANTS CLARIFICATION.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXPANSION OF THE POINTS MADE IN REF A WHICH WE HOPE WILL CLARIFY THE SITUATION:

A. THE UK L-11 120MM RIFLED GUN FIRING SEPARATE LOADED AMMUNITION AND PRESENTLY INSTALLED IN THE CHIEFTAIN TANK, CANNOT BE ACCOMMODATED IN THE XM-1. IN ADDITION, THE US ARMY DOES NOT WANT SEPARATE LOADED AMMUNITION.

B. THE FRG 120MM SMOOTHBORE GUN FIRING FIXED AMMUNITION CAN BE ADAPTED TO THE XM-1 BY REDESIGNING THE RECOIL SYSTEM.

C. THE UK M-13 120MM RIFLED GUN FIRING FIXED AMMUNITION WILL FIT IN BOTH THE XM-1 AND THE LEOPARD 2. THE M-13 WILL NOT BE INTEROPERABLE WITH THE L-11 FOR TWO BASIC REASONS: (1) THE M-13 WILL FIRE FIXED AMMUNITION AND THE L-11 FIRES SEPARATE LOADED AMMUNITION WHICH ARE NOT INTERCHANGEABLE, AND (2) A DIFFERENCE IN CHAMBER PRESSURES. (M-13 IS HIGHER THAN THAT OF THE L-11.)

D. FRANCE AND THE FRG MAINTAIN THAT THE FRENCH 120MM SMOOTHBORE FIRING FIXED AMMUNITION WILL BE ABLE TO FIRE THE FRG 120MM SMOOTHBORE AMMUNITION. HOWEVER, SINCE THE FRENCH 120MM IS TO BE A LIGHTWEIGHT GUN, THERE IS DOUBT ON THE PART OF US TECHNICAL EXPERTS THAT THE FRG HIGH PRESSURE AMMUNITION WILL TRULY BE INTEROPERABLE AND SAFE.

3. A. IN SUMMARY, CURRENT PROGRAMS CALL FOR THREE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 073701 POSS DUPE

120MM GUNS AND TWO TYPES OF AMMUNITION (THREE IF FRG AND FRANCE FAIL TO ACHIEVE INTEROPERABILITY) IN THE NATO FORCE STRUCTURE BY THE 1990'S, NAMELY:

-- UK L-11 120MM RIFLED GUN FIRING SEPARATE LOADED AMMUNITION.

-- FRG 120MM SMOOTHBORE GUN FIRING FIXED AMMUNITION.

-- FRENCH 120MM SMOOTHBORE GUN FIRING FIXED AMMUNITION.

B. IF THE UK OR THE US SHOULD DEPLOY THE M-13 120MM RIFLED GUN THERE WOULD BE FOUR TYPES OF GUNS AND THREE OR FOUR TYPES OF AMMUNITION.

VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, STANDARDS, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE073701
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CDR.BITOFF:MEM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770116-0046
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770494/aaaaddws.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a35201ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 57028
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2915742
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY WORKING GROUP 3 ON TANK GUN AMMUNITION (AC/297/WG/3)
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
To: NATO BRUSSELS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a35201ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009